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Lincoln's purpose was to put down secession and maintain the union—incidentally, he freed the slaves. Had Stanton made it known to the world as his firm belief that: "By the right of secession and slavery alone can we acquire those virile qualities necessary to win in the stern strife of actual life," had he insistently declared that slavery and secession could be done away with "when the millennium had come and human nature had changed," would Lincoln have chosen him, no matter what his efficiency, his personal following? Would not, rather, the very facts of his great influence and personal following have made Lincoln wisely refrain from increasing the influence of one bent on defeating his great purpose?

President Wilson's purpose is so to win this war that the rule of international justice may succeed to the ruinous, bloody, wasteful horrors of war, which may otherwise again be forced upon the world whenever a strong, ill-intentioned nation wishes.

Roosevelt, with almost or quite German fervor, has lauded war as war. Years ago he said: "We must play a great part in the world, and especially perform those deeds of blood, of valor, which above everything else bring national renown. * * * By war alone can we acquire those virile qualities necessary to win in the stern strife of actual life." (*The Strenuous Life*.) To-day, in spite of the incredible sufferings of the war-worn, overtaxed world, he reiterates that his hope for future peace lies in our building up an army after the war which shall be "the most efficient in the world." To the President's statement that: "In every discussion of the peace that must end this war it is taken for granted that that peace must be given by some definite concert of power, which will make it virtually impossible that any such catastrophe should ever overwhelm it again," he scornfully replied that "war might end when the millennium had come and human nature had changed."

It takes vision of a noble sort to be a leader in the changing of that same human nature, which now, as never before, is prepared for the change by universal suffering: to see that not even how long the war lasts is so vital as that it should end war. The tragical pity of it is that such a forceful natural leader as Roosevelt has not that vision; will not cast his great influence on the side of the world's desperate need—on the side of progress.

Does not the very fact of Roosevelt's great influence and personal following make Wilson wisely refrain from increasing that influence?

E. A. SMITH.

LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA.

HE SAW LINCOLN

SIR,—I am not, I regret to say, a regular reader of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW, and I therefore do not know whether the views of those of us who regret the sending of Mr. Barnard's statue of Abraham Lincoln to Europe have appeared on your pages. From reading the communications in your December number I am reminded of the decision of Justice Sir Roger de Coverly in the litigation relative to the willow tree, which was, if I remember rightly, in these words: "Much may

be said on both sides." And I crave the space to say something contrary to the judgment of Mr. Macmonnies, Mr. Hastings and Mr. Fletcher.

Let me first say a word in reference to Mr. Macmonnies' suggestion that there has been "a nation-wide organized attack" upon the work of Mr. Barnard. I am no part of the organization; never heard of it before; am not led or incited by it.

Now, I have seen Abraham Lincoln. I stood for an hour not ten feet from him and looked straight into his face while he delivered an address. I stood near enough to see him plainly while he made a different sort of speech. I sat by, one evening, while for an hour he carried on a conversation with a number of men. In answering an inquiry as to how he felt after Douglas had defeated him for the Senate, he took hold of the toe of his boot with his ample hand and said, "I felt very much as a big boy in Sangamon County who was running up hill, barefooted, felt when he stubbed his toe against a stone. Somebody asked him how *he* felt. 'I'm too big to cry,' said he, 'but it hurts too bad to laugh'." [General Logan cribbed this story when he undertook to explain how he felt when he was defeated for Vice-President.] I was a boy, a young boy if you please, but I had, and always have had, a remarkably good memory for objects I have seen. As to my fitness to pass judgment on a sculptured figure—well, if references are required, I will refer you to Mr. Frederick Macmonnies. I went to see Mr. Barnard's statue of Lincoln—went alone, so as not to be distracted. I stood a long time—looked at it from several points. It is truly a striking, an impressive statue; but *it does not look like Abraham Lincoln*.

Mr. Cox tells us that Mr. Barnard declared that he "was carrying out in his sculpture his ideal of Lincoln." That was not the spirit in which Macmonnies worked when he made the beautiful and *lifelike* statue of Mr. Stranahan that stands at the entrance to Prospect Park, in Brooklyn. We sent to the sculptor several photographs of the subject—Mr. St. Gaudens kindly saw to the posing of the dear old gentleman—and when the statue was unveiled, while Mr. and Mrs. Stranahan sat by, *everybody remarked the perfect likeness*.

Mr. Fletcher declares that his first impression of Mr. Barnard's work was that "it does not look like Lincoln." Then he sets his imagination at work and reads a "miracle" into the bronze. It seems to me the English and French might better have been shown Abraham Lincoln as God made him than as Mr. Barnard imagined God should have made him.

NEW YORK CITY.

ELIJAH R. KENNEDY.

IS THE UNITED STATES A "PIKER" ?

SIR,—Is this great United States a "piker" ?

You all know what a "piker" is.

This great United States is a "piker."

Why?

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